

The Sampler

May 22, 2013

The Sampler is a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program.

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Web Highlights

This month's featured lake website is [Friends of Big Island Pond](#) in Atkinson, Derry and Hampstead, NH

[Volunteers Seek High Impact](#)

[Minnesota Lakes Contaminated with all kinds of Chemicals](#)

Upcoming Events

[Annual VLAP Workshop](#)

Saturday, June 1, 2013

NH DES

29 Hazen Dr.

Concord, NH

Register by Friday, May 24th!

[NEC NALMS Conference](#)

June 7-8, 2013

Saint Joseph's College

Standish, ME

Registration Open!

[Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Assoc.](#)

Meet & Greet

Thursday, May 30, 2013 and

Thursday, June 6, 2013

[Lakes Congress](#)

Friday, June 21, 2013

Wares Campus Center

Colby Sawyer College

New London, NH

Registration Open!

[2013 NH Boating](#)

[Education Class Schedules](#)

[Grants](#)

[NHEC Foundation](#)

NH's Public Bathing Facility Inspection Program

Whether you are planning a vacation, stay-cation, day trip, or weekend get-away this summer, chances are you'll take a dip in a public pool or visit a waterpark to cool off on those scorching summer days. If so, did you ever wonder if the facility your swimming in is safe? [New Hampshire's Public Bathing Facility Inspection Program](#), or Pool Program, is charged with protecting public health and safety at public recreational facilities including swimming pools, wading pools, spas, water slides, scholastic competition pools, and hotel, motel and condominium pools. There are over 1,200 public bathing facilities monitored to meet compliance with safety, water quality and bacterial standards. In 2012, 619 public bathing facilities were inspected, which was the highest number of inspections conducted since 2005 (Figure 1).

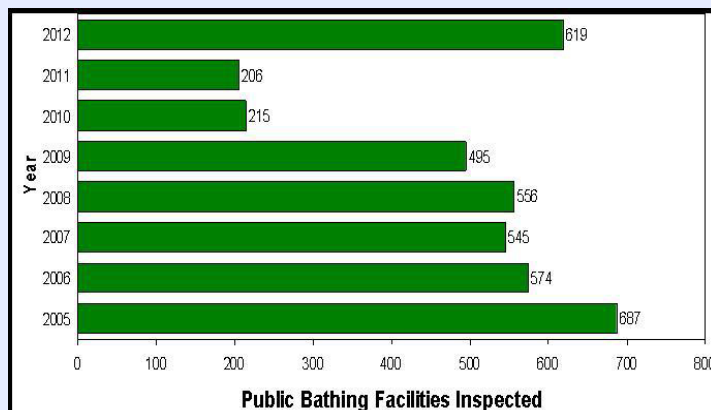


Figure 1. Public Bathing Facility Inspections 2005-2012

The inspections conducted in 2012 resulted in 232 safety violations, 401 water quality violations and 31 bacterial violations. Figure 2 represents the number of violations recorded since 2002. The Pool Program has a defined focus on public bathing facility health and safety, and as a result the number of water quality violations in recent years has seen a downward trend. Bacterial violations in 2012 numbered only 31, or 5% of all inspections conducted. This marks the fewest number of violations since the inception of the program. A comparison of all water quality violations in 2012 with those of 2011 shows a 3% decrease, but a 7% decrease in comparison to the historical average.

Programs and projects that focus on conserving, protecting and maintaining the natural environment.
Deadline: March 1, June 1, Sept. 1, Dec. 1, 2013

Limno Lingo

Hypolimnion: Temperate lakes that experience shifts in seasonal conditions, and are typically deeper than six meters (20 ft.), stratify into two to three thermal layers. The lower (deepest) layer is referred to as the hypolimnion. Hypolimnetic waters are cold and resist mixing with upper layers. The water temperature does not typically increase much after spring stratification, and the dissolved oxygen concentration typically decreases during the stratification period.

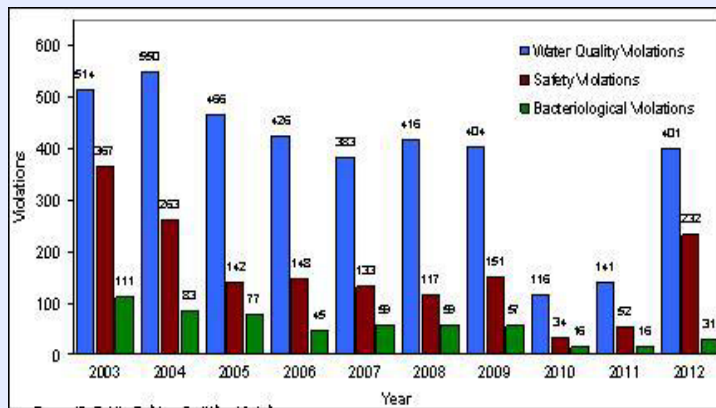


Figure 2. Public Bathing Facility Violations 2003-2012

This is promising news, however we should all be aware of the potential [safety](#) and [health risks](#) associated with recreating in public bathing facilities as well as our own backyard pools. The [Center for Disease Control Fact Sheet](#) recommends to: **Look** at your surroundings, **Ask** questions of the pool owners or staff, **Act** to educate others, **Practice** healthy swimming behaviors, and be **Safe**. Click [here](#) for more information about NH's Public Bathing Facility Inspection Program or contact Tim Wilson at richard.wilson@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-7108.

2013 VLAP Sampling Season

The 2013 sampling season is underway! Please schedule your summer sampling dates with the DES Jody Connor Limnology Center, Colby Sawyer College Satellite Laboratory or Plymouth State University Satellite Laboratory. 2013 Biologist visits will be conducted at lake names M - Z. Please schedule your biologist visit with Sara Steiner, VLAP Coordinator, at sara.steiner@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2658. For a sampling refresher you can view the [VLAP Training Video](#) on YouTube.

LakeFest 2013: Hands Across the Water

Join NH LAKES at Weirs Beach in Laconia, NH on Saturday, September 7, 2013 for the *"Hands Across the Water"* festival. Help break the world record for the largest raft of canoe and kayaks on a single body of water! The current record is 1,902 canoes and kayaks set by One Square Mile of Hope in New York's Adirondack State Park. Help break the record and afterwards enjoy more paddling, music, and learn about preventing the spread of aquatic nuisance plants and animals, lake ecology, watershed management and protection, and much more!

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